

NEW YORK HERALD.

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EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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New York, Wednesday, April 5, 1865.

IMMENSE CIRCULATION OF THE HERALD.

We printed yesterday's HERALD, for general circulation, the enormous number of one hundred and thirty-one thousand five hundred and twenty (131,520) copies. No HERALDS were sent to the Army of the Potomac in consequence of its movement; and as we usually send to that army eleven thousand copies, that number added would have raised the whole number to 142,620.

This number is larger than the whole circulation of all the other dailies of this city together. Their aggregate circulation, morning and evening, is about one hundred thousand copies. We thus already exceed the whole circulation of all the others together by a large figure, and we have no doubt that we shall soon exceed it by a larger one, and make our daily circulation one hundred and fifty thousand copies.

THE SITUATION.

The general rejoicing and delight over the recent grand national triumph in Virginia continued yesterday. Though the people were not so wildly demonstrative in their manifestations as on the first announcement of the glorious intelligence, the feeling was deeper and more appreciative. At first it was difficult fully to realize such fruition to the profound, long sustained, but often disappointed, yearnings of the national heart. But twenty-four hours allowed time for the bright vision to resolve itself into a blessed fact, apparent beyond all cavil, and for a fuller comprehension of its almost incalculable importance.

Our detailed narrative of the military operations around and in Petersburg and Richmond is continued to-day in the graphic despatches of the HERALD correspondents. Accounts of the fighting up to and including Saturday have already appeared in our columns. To-day we give the particulars of the final fierce struggle on Sunday, ending in glorious success to the Union arms, almost the annihilation of Lee's rebel army, and the triumphant entry of the national troops into Richmond and Petersburg. It is estimated that in all the battles commencing with last Wednesday, when the movement of General Grant's forces began, and ending with last Sunday night, twenty-five thousand of General Lee's rebel soldiers were captured and fifteen thousand of them killed and wounded, while nearly two hundred pieces of his artillery, immense quantities of stores and small arms innumerable fell into Union hands. General Grant says that seven thousand will more than cover all his losses in killed, wounded and captured.

When the national troops marched into Petersburg, at four o'clock on Monday morning, they found the fortifications, cannon and camps as they had been used while the rebels had possession of them, showing the hasty character of the flight. Warehouses filled with all manner of army stores, battle flags, wagons, horses and mules without number, were also found.

After deducting twenty-five thousand for prisoners, fifteen thousand for killed and wounded and a large additional number for stragglers and deserters, Lee's army must be but a miserable remnant. What there was left of it was still in full flight yesterday morning, moving in the direction of Lynchburg, with Sheridan's cavalry and the Second, Fifth, Sixth and Twenty-fourth corps of national troops close upon its heels, as we are informed by a despatch from General Grant. Over two thousand additional rebels had already been captured since the pursuit commenced. General Grant is accompanying the pursuing column in person.

Among General Wetzell's captures in Richmond were twenty-eight locomotives and one hundred and fifty rail cars. On Sunday night, before abandoning that city, the rebels blew up their iron-clads in James river and their fortifications on its banks, producing an explosion which was heard and felt for miles around. President Lincoln was in Richmond yesterday. A despatch was received in Washington from him dated at Jeff. Davis' last residence.

A large meeting of leading merchants and other prominent citizens was held at the Custom House yesterday, in pursuance of a resolution adopted at the Wall street mass meeting on Monday, to make arrangements for a suitable celebration of our great victories. It was agreed, instead of a procession, to have two addresses prepared, one to the President and the other to the army, and to have them signed by the citizens and published, and to fix upon a day for general thanksgiving, on which occasion it will be requested that there shall be appropriate religious services in all the churches. It is supposed that the 20th inst., the fourth anniversary of the grand uprising of the North and monster Union square mass war meeting of 1861, will be the day chosen. A committee of five was appointed to prepare the plans.

The Board of Aldermen at their meeting yesterday unanimously adopted resolutions appropriate to the present jubilant condition of the public feeling, and appointed a committee to confer with the merchants in arrangements for the proposed celebration. A message was received from Mayor Guilan, expressing his disapprobation of the designed demonstration in recognition of the national triumph, and proposing that instead thereof Jefferson's birthday, the 13th inst., be observed as a holiday. It was at first resolved to return the message to the Mayor; but afterwards the matter was reconsidered, and the document was referred to the Special Celebration Committee.

At a special meeting of the Board of Councilmen yesterday, held for the purpose of making arrangements to celebrate the recent victories, the resolutions adopted by the Aldermen were presented, calling for the appointment of a special committee to attend to the matter, and unanimously concurred in. The Mayor's message, suggesting that the celebration be fixed for the 13th of April, was read and referred to the special committee.

General Sherman arrived at Newbern, N. C., on last Thursday, on his return from the recent conference with James river, and left for Goldsboro on the same day. General Sherman believes that the soldiers are the only persons competent to deal with a settlement of the rebellion. In an address to his troops soon after their arrival at Goldsboro he told them that he expected to be ready to muster them out of service before the expiration of four more months. No demonstration in front of Sherman's army has been made by General Johnston since the battle of Bentonville. The rebels are principally located on the Goldsboro and Raleigh Railroad, between Smithfield and Raleigh. Both Raleigh and Weiden are being strongly fortified by them. They have an iron-clad ram in the upper Roanoke river, which they expect to have ready to move down to Plymouth and into the Sound by the middle of this month.

Our Charleston correspondent informs us that up to

the 29th ultimo about eight thousand bales of stored cotton had been discovered in and around that city, and more was constantly being brought to light. Large numbers of negroes are continually arriving in the city from the interior, and as rapidly as possible they are being colonized on the adjoining sea islands, to cultivate the abandoned plantations. Nearly all the farmers near Charleston had resumed work, under promise of protection from the national troops. The report that a party of rebels had recaptured Georgetown, S. C., appears to have been baseless.

THE LEGISLATURE.

In the Senate yesterday the bill authorizing the New York Manhattan Light Company to charge at the rate of three dollars and fifty cents per one thousand feet for gas was taken up. On motion, the bill was amended so as to make binding every requirement and stipulation of its contract with the city of New York for lighting certain streets and places; also providing that, at the expiration of two years, the company shall return to the original retail price of two dollars and fifty cents per one thousand feet. The amendments having been accepted, the bill was then passed. Bills were passed for the relief of the Bath and Coney Island Railroad Bridge Company; to amend the Brooklyn Water act; to incorporate the Soldiers' Messenger Corps; to improve Riverside avenue from Yorkers to Kingsbridge, and to create a new ward in this city. The Senate then went into Committee of the Whole and resumed the consideration of the bill amending the Registry law. After a lengthy debate as to the constitutionality of the provisions of the bill, progress was reported and the bill was made the special order for to-day. In evening session notice was given of a bill to incorporate the Exempt Firemen's Association of New York. Bills were reported for the enlargement of the locks on the Erie Canal, the expense thereof to be liquidated by a tax on through freight; to authorize the Captain of the Port of New York to select one of the harbor masters to act in his absence; to incorporate the New York Pier and Wharfing Company was then taken up in Committee of the Whole, and amended so as to limit the period within which the company shall improve the piers to two years, and the number of piers to be occupied by them to ten. The bill was then ordered to third reading.

In the Assembly Mr. Van Buren asked leave to introduce resolutions tendering "our heartfelt thanks to Lieutenant General Grant and all the officers and men of the grand army of the Union for the heroism they have displayed, the sacrifices they have made and the results they have achieved," which was granted, and they were adopted unanimously. Bills were passed to change the name of the New York Free Academy to New York Free College, and to close a portion of the Second avenue, Brooklyn. The Speaker then announced the special order, which was the election of state Superintendent of Public Instruction. The arrival of the Senate having been announced, the roll was called, the members present voting with the following result:—For Victor M. Rice, 87; for Warren, 39; Benjamin W. Downing, 6; Horace Greeley, 1; John S. Thorne, 1; whereupon the election of Victor M. Rice was announced by the Lieutenant Governor, for three years, from the first Tuesday in April, 1865. The bill to authorize the city of Brooklyn to issue bonds to the amount of \$1,000,000, for the purpose of purchasing the city of Brooklyn, was adopted. Mr. Sullivan moved to suspend the order of third reading of bills, so as to go into Committee of the Whole on the Dry Dock Railroad bill, which was agreed to. When the committee was called it was ordered that the bill be moved to its third reading by a vote of yeas 42, nays 42. The Supply and Charity bill being the special order the evening session was occupied in their consideration. Progress was reported.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

The bark Bolivia, in the service of the Pacific Railroad Company, arrived at this port from Aspinwall yesterday, under command of Captain Whiteberry, with advice from the United States of Colombia dated at Panama on the 15th of March. The State of Panama was revolutionized against the Mosquera-Calancha government on the 9th ultimo, and the Executive was quickly turned out of office. Five or six persons were killed and a few more wounded in the city of Panama. The rights of foreigners were respected, and their personal safety and property secured. Señor Calancha, the late President, found shelter on board the United States ship St. Marys. Señor Colonge, a prominent citizen of Panama, was named Provisional President next day. He formed a government, which was recognized by all the foreign consuls. President Murillo had tendered his resignation in Bogota, he being opposed to the popular wish for a war with Ecuador. A battalion of regular troops stationed in Lima, Peru, revolted against the government; but the movement was immediately suppressed and its leader shot. An attempt on the life of a formidable leader was expected. The revolutionists seek to place General Castilla at the head of the government.

The drawing for the Twenty-first ward, Eighth Congressional district, was concluded yesterday. There was no other drawing in the city. A number of recruits were received at the Supervisors' rooms and the various provost marshals' offices. The examination of the drafted men of the First ward commenced yesterday at the office of the Fourth Congressional district, and notwithstanding a large crowd of those were in attendance, keeping the Provost Marshal and his assistants busily employed all day, not a single man was held to service, all having some physical or other disqualification which exempted them. It is confidently expected that a State paymaster will be in attendance at Supervisor Hunt's office in the City Hall Park to-day, with plenty of funds to pay bounties to all volunteers who present themselves both there and at the provost marshals' offices.

The Board of Supervisors had a special meeting yesterday. A resolution to abolish the system of recruiting in the City Hall Park and on the Battery, and appoint paymasters to pay recruits mustered in by the provost marshals, was offered, discussed at length and finally tabled.

The Board of Councilmen, at their special meeting yesterday, concurred with the Aldermen in adopting resolutions requesting the Board of Supervisors to cause paymasters to be appointed at the provost marshals' offices to pay bounties to recruits. A communication was received from the Mayor, sent by the New York Post Company, offering to remove dead horses from the city, which was referred to the Committee on Public Health. After passing a number of routine papers the Board adjourned till Thursday.

A meeting of firemen was held last night at Firemen's Hall, Chief Engineer Decker presiding, at which a resolution recommending a continuance of duty by all members of the present department so long as their services may be needed, and requesting the Common Council to institute the necessary legal proceedings to test the constitutionality of the paid department bill, was unanimously adopted.

A fire broke out about one o'clock yesterday morning in the building No. 93 Furman street, Brooklyn, and extended to No. 95, entirely consuming the contents of both. During its continuance a shocking catastrophe occurred. While a number of firemen were on the top of one of the buildings the roof gave way, and they were plunged into the mass of flame beneath. Five of these men are known to have been burned to death, and four more were dangerously injured.

The committee to arrange for the Fort Sumter anniversary celebration at the Academy of Music had another meeting yesterday at the Astor House. A letter was received from General Peck announcing his acceptance of the presidency of the meeting. The two pieces of music composed for the occasion are termed "Anderson's March to Sumter" and "Anderson's Quickstep." Great confidence is expressed in the entire success of the affair.

In the Surgeon's Court the will of Mrs. Susan Cross, deceased, has been on trial this week. The deceased was very aged, and her mental capacity is questioned. Much conflicting testimony has been taken, and the case was submitted for decision yesterday.

Battery. More comfortable quarters will be provided for them as soon as possible.

Joe Coburn, the pugilist, who was some time ago required to give bail to keep the peace, on charge of having made an assault on the editor of a sporting paper published in this city, has lodged a complaint for libel against said editor, and the latter yesterday gave bail to await an examination.

The stock market was steady and considerably higher yesterday morning; but it afterwards weakened. Government bonds were in demand at an advance. Gold was firm, and closed at 148½ down town. The closing price at the evening board was 147½.

There was some recovery yesterday from the general stagnation which characterized commercial affairs on Monday; yet the markets were very dull, and a large proportion of the moderate transactions recorded were at private terms, indicating almost unmistakably now a days lower prices. The great news from James river occupies all attention, and business is of only a secondary importance. On Chicago the flour market was dull and heavy, while wheat ruled exceedingly quiet; but prices were without material change. Corn and oats were in limited request, and prices are declining. The pork market was firmer and active. Beef ruled steady, while lamb was firmer. Freights were rather firmer. Whiskey advanced materially; but the demand was moderate.

The market for beef cattle was heavy this week, and with fair receipts, prices fell 1½c. a lb. per lb., ranging from 14c. to 22c. a lb.—the latter an extreme rate. Milch cows were unchanged, and sold at \$45 to \$90 a pair. Veals were steady at 10c. a lb. Sheep and lambs were in fair demand at from \$7.50 to \$12 a pair. Hogs were dull and lower, selling at from 11½c. to 12½c. The total receipts were 4,443 beefs, 214 cows, 1,749 veals, 8,833 sheep and lambs, and 5,417 hogs.

The News from Virginia—The Destruction of Lee's Army and the Confederacy.

We give to-day very full and particular accounts of the fighting of Sunday, the decisive day of the great struggle at Petersburg. The important fact established by to-day's news is that Lee's army is utterly annihilated as a fighting force. The estimate is that fifteen thousand of Lee's men are killed and wounded and twenty-five thousand are prisoners of war, thus making a total of forty thousand men put out of the combat in one series of operations. It is certain that such a loss would leave to Lee but a mere ineffective remnant of troops, even if he had what is left in one body; but, in fact, what is left is split into several detachments, retreating in the *enquie quai* style, and Lee is in all probability ignorant of the present whereabouts of the larger part of the force not captured. Blenheim or Waterloo were not more destructive to the beaten armies than the fighting at Petersburg has been to Lee's.

Out of all this we should realize very distinctly the grand fact that there is no longer any Southern confederacy. There is no longer any power besides the United States in the limits of the old Union that can set up even the faintest pretence to nationality. At this hour the rebellion is "without civil or military organization," and "without the emblems or the semblance of nationality." This is the admission of the Richmond Examiner—which no one will accuse of prejudice in our favor.

That journal stated in advance the position that the rebellion would be in when it should be compelled to leave Richmond, and argued that Richmond was so identified with the rebel cause that it was to all men and all nations, the visible symbol of it, and that to abandon one was to abandon the other. Thus we only repeat the admissions of the enemy in saying that the rebellion as an organized power is dead, and that it gave up the ghost in the hour when it was forced to leave the first and last of its strongholds. And the country cannot accept too literally this acknowledgment, made in advance in Richmond, that that city was the last possible resting and rallying place of the rebellion; that by its capture the rebellion is put down, and that they who may be still in arms are mere vagabonds and fugitives, without cause or purpose or power.

All dignity and elevation so far as the enemy are concerned has now departed from their struggle. So long as they could, with some appearance of justice, claim a nationality; so long as they had cities, a capital, and established means of intercourse with nations, their position before the world was respectable. But now all that is done with. They are a mere group of fugitives from justice; and while by yesterday they had the noble ambition to change the fate of nations, to-day they only hope to escape from the consequences of their own acts. They repeat, on a large scale, the act of Semmes, and being without the manliness to look fate in the face and give up a hopeless cause, they sneak out of sight and run for it. Even from the same Richmond Examiner we have the declaration that the force now with Lee is no longer an army. It has degenerated from its former proud station to an almost menial one. It is "a mere body guard for a few officials." It can accomplish no national purpose; it can merely protect the flight of a few leaders, and will be scattered in the mountains or hunted down in the highways.

Mr. SEWARD'S BRIEF STATEMENT OF HIS FOREIGN POLICY.—In the little speech delivered by the Secretary of State to the rejoicing people of Washington on Monday last, we have a more satisfactory exposition of his foreign policy than can be gathered from all the ponderous volumes of his diplomatic correspondence of the last four years. His remark, for instance, that "If Great Britain will only be just towards the United States, Canada will remain undisturbed by us so long as she prefers the authority of the noble Queen to voluntary incorporation with the United States," is all that could be desired. But in reference to Louis Napoleon he evaded the main question. "What," inquired Mr. Seward; "what shall I say to the Emperor of the French? (A Voice: To get out of Mexico.) I shall say to the Emperor of the French that he can go to-morrow to Richmond and get his tobacco, so long under blockade there, provided the rebels have not used it up."

Mr. Seward may not have heard that voice in the crowd; but whether he did or did not hear it, he knows that it embodies the universal sentiments of the people of the United States.

He knows that it is their wish that he shall tell the Emperor of the French to "get out of Mexico," and that he cannot remain there long after the close of this war. The closing general observation of Mr. Seward that "every nation is entitled to regulate its own domestic affairs in its own way, and that all are bound to conduct themselves so as to promote peace on earth and good will to mankind," may, perhaps, have been intended as an apology for noninterference in Mexico; but this policy is not strong enough to stand against the Monroe doctrine. Mr. Seward may try to evade it; but he will be eventually compelled, we apprehend, to tell the Emperor of the French that, for the sake of peace, he will be acting wisely to "get out of Mexico."

THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS AT WASHINGTON.—The European diplomatic corps at Washington have generally been ranked among the sympathizers of Jeff. Davis. Among the exceptions we may mention those who on Monday last called at the State Department to express their congratulations on the fall of Richmond, viz:—First, the Austrian Minister, Count Wydenbruck; then the Consul General of Switzerland; next the Swedish Minister, Baron Wetterstedt; the Prussian Minister, Baron Gerolt; and Mr. Burnley, British Charge d'Affaires, in the absence of her Majesty's newly appointed minister, Sir Frederick Bruce. But there was, it appears, no congratulatory representative at the State Department during the day in behalf of France, Russia, Spain or the kingdom of Italy. The reason, we are informed, is that the legations of those governments at Washington are strongly impregnated, one way or another, with the fallacies of secession, rebellion and Southern independence. It is not surprising that nobody appeared in behalf of Louis Napoleon, considering the new danger to which Maximilian of Mexico is exposed with the downfall of Jeff. Davis. The Russian ambassador, we fear, has been misrepresenting his "angust master;" but how is it young Italy was not represented on the occasion referred to? We know that her people are not only the friends of our national cause, but that they are its warmest supporters in Europe. In the blessings of their union, and from their long experience in the troubles and disasters resulting from their past divisions into petty States and duchies, they comprehend the justice of our Union and the necessity of maintaining it. Their minister at Washington, accordingly, should have been foremost, in person or by proxy, to congratulate Mr. Seward on the fall of Richmond. Seclusion influences, we fear, have controlled the Italian minister in this important matter. To his case, therefore, and to every other one of the *corps diplomatique* of the same inconsistent character, the attention of the government represented should be drawn, in view of the new departure touching our foreign affairs which the administration at Washington will now be required to take.

Two THINGS.—When Jeff. Davis went down to Georgia last September he reported that two-thirds of his enlisted soldiers were absent without leave. He is now supposed to be again on the road to Georgia to report that the other third are gone.

RETRIBUTION.—South Carolina, in dragging Virginia into the rebellion, proclaimed the death of the Union; Virginia, in holding South Carolina to the defence of Richmond, has been the death of the rebellion.

A PROVOKING MISTAKE.—In April, 1861, Mrs. Jeff. Davis was promised an early visit to the White House at Washington; in April, 1865, Mrs. Lincoln, in a journey to Richmond, returns the promised call, and finds Mrs. Davis "not at home"—gone, perhaps, to Washington. Such is life.

PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE.

It affords us much pleasure to be able to contradict the report of Major General Potter's death. The latest telegrams to the General's family state that he is seriously, but it is hoped not fatally, wounded.

NEWS FROM BRITISH COLUMBIA.—The Russo-American Telegraph.

NEW WESTMINSTER, BRITISH COLUMBIA, March 17, 1865.

VIA SEATTLE, W. S., March 31, 1865.

The United States steamer Shubrick, Captain Scanlon, with Colonel Bulkeley and party, of Collins' Overland Telegraph and Exploring Expedition, arrived here to-day at eight A. M. Colonel Bulkeley was cordially received by the Governor of British Columbia, who taken great interest in the work, and has promised all the assistance in his power.

There is still some snow on the ground and floating in the river, but the weather is moderating. The Shubrick leaves here at four P. M. to-morrow, taking Colonel Bulkeley with the Governor and party, and returning to Victoria in the meantime the work will be pushed forward from here under the direction of Captain Conway.

The Fraser is still closed above, and there is nothing new from Cariboo. Superintendent of the California Telegraph Company, also arrived on the Shubrick, and will start on his expedition to the interior of the province to meet the party working this way, there being about twenty miles yet to finish, which will place this town in communication with San Francisco and the Eastern cities. The submarine cable is to be laid across Fraser river on the 20th.

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News from the mines is unimportant.

The submarine telegraph cable connecting with the California line was laid across Fraser river on the 21st inst., by the Governor's steam yacht Leviathan. The telegraph line will soon be completed between here and San Francisco.

NEWS FROM CALIFORNIA.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 29, 1865.

The receipts at the Custom House of this port are now about \$100,000 daily. The merchants are hurrying to get out of bond before the operation of the new provisions.

Despatches stating that the pirate Shenandoah was at Melbourne cause much apprehension for the safety of the steamers on the Pacific coast.

Arrived steamship Oregon, Portland and Victoria, bringing \$172,000 in gold.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 30, 1865.

The Bulletin's Olympia (Washington Territory) correspondence of the 16th, relates the circumstance of a curious affair at that port. The British cruiser Fox was reported to have been captured by the American cutter, with a requisition upon the Governor of Washington Territory for authority to allow the seizure of the British merchant ship Frigate Bird lying at the port, the mate of the Frigate Bird having refused to surrender command of her to her new captain, appointed by her owner. Governor Evans declined to permit her seizure, saying he was not authorized to permit a foreign vessel to seize a ship in the waters of the United States, and it would be an insult to our admiralty corps.

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General McDowell, in reply to a note from Señor Godoy, Consul for the Republic of Mexico, says that he recognizes no other consul from that country. Maximilian has a consul here, who is thus not recognized. Four and seven firms at last quotations. Foreign supplies small.

The ship Marston sails for Hong Kong on Tuesday, with \$250,000 in treasure.

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SOUTH AMERICA.

OUR PANAMA CORRESPONDENCE.

PANAMA, March 18, 1865.

The United States ship Lancaster, from Chile, arrived here yesterday. She brings dates from Lima to the 7th inst.

A revolution has occurred among a battalion of the regular troops in Lima against the government, which was subdued and the commanding officer shot. Another was expected when the Lancaster sailed of larger proportions.

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NEWS FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, April 4, 1865.

IMPORTANT ORDER FROM THE STATE DEPARTMENT.—REWARD FOR THE ARREST OF SPIES AND BLOCKADE RUNNERS.

The following was promulgated by the Secretary of State to-day:—

TO ALL WHOM THESE PATENTS MAY COME:—Whereas, for some time past evil disposed persons have crossed the borders of the United States, entered ports by sea, from countries where they are tolerated, and have committed capital felonies against the property and life of American citizens, as well in the cities as in rural districts of the country.